

bit chagrined to realize we only will have 3 weeks between the Fourth of July recess and the conventions in August.

I had really thought we would have four; if we could do five or six appropriations bills in that window. So we really are under pressure, with the 7 weeks we have in the summer, to move 11 appropriations bills. That is going to be a monumental task, and it is going to take work with each other on both sides of the aisle. I know that. We cannot move it without everybody giving it a shot. But it makes it awfully hard for us to be doing other issues, other than the China trade bill, which we hope to get worked in there at some point.

With that, I think we have talked enough about schedule. I hope we can come to some agreements over the next 10 days as to exactly how we will proceed the first week we are back.

I yield the floor.

COMMEMORATING FREE ELECTIONS IN CROATIA

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, today I join with my colleagues, Senators FEINGOLD, HUTCHISON, ABRAHAM, and LIEBERMAN, who will introduce a resolution congratulating the people of Croatia on their successful parliamentary and presidential elections, the peaceful transition of power, and new initiatives for reform. In addition to congratulating the people of Croatia, the resolution expresses U.S. support for their progress and encourages Croatian participation in the NATO Partnership for Peace. One day, I hope that we will be expressing our support for Croatia, and other nations with similar democratic inclination, as members of NATO itself.

The Balkan nations embracing democracy must be supported at every opportunity available because the government could so easily have taken the other path. The leaders of Croatia could have chosen to repress popular involvement and other fundamental rights of democracy, but instead have chosen the harder but correct path of working through discourse, debate, and democracy. Because we have also been through these trials as a nation, I hope that the American people will watch closely the progress of the Croatian people and will support their path to freedom, stability, and peace.

The most important benefit to come out of this election will be the resolution of Croatia's domestic difficulties. Through the successful election, the Croatian people have taken the reins of control. In addition to the power instilled by this self-determination, the Croatian people are now spurred to take up the mission of reform that should further improve their government. Among the stated goals of President Mesic are the reintroduction of Serbian refugees to the homes they left behind, reform of the privatization system that has faced serious corruption

allegations, and support for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. These improvements would certainly go far to legitimize the new Administration in the view of the international community, but more importantly, in the eyes of the Croatian people. President Mesic's continued efforts on these fronts will show its people that their new government takes seriously the need for honesty and accountability.

As the government wins the support of its people, I am also encouraged by the efforts of the new Administration to get involved with the European community. In such a volatile region, a nation uniting the many groups will be the key to fostering a stable political and economic atmosphere. Part of the victory of democracy in Croatia has been the new spirit of regional harmony that I hope will spread to its neighbors. Peace in the Balkan nations will only come with honest attempts to live with differences, and Croatia will be a leader in the efforts for peace there.

In addition to better conditions in the Balkans, democracy will encourage the involvement of other foreign nations. Just two weeks ago, Croatian President Stipe Mesic met with French President Jacques Chirac to discuss an agreement on stabilization and association, as well as the Croatian entrance to the NATO Partnership for Peace. The resolution I am supporting today suggests U.S. support for the addition of Croatia in the partnership, and I am happy to inform my colleagues that the nations of NATO have announced that Croatia will become a full member of the Partnership for Peace program today. This is truly a great accomplishment, and it affirms the commitment of all NATO allies to help Croatia in its chosen path.

In addition to my appreciation for the democratic and international progress of the Croatian people, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the work of the Croatian American Association in bringing this subject to my attention and to the attention of the American people. The Croatian American community has worked tirelessly to create bonds of friendship between our two nations, and I hope that as Croatia becomes more democratic and involved in worldwide political affairs that we, as Americans, will continue to support them.

I hope that this resolution will be an additional bond between two nations that democratic tenets have already joined.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH of Oregon). The majority leader.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 3244

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 3244 is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3244) to combat trafficking of persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and slavery-like conditions in the United States.

Mr. LOTT. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

AUTHORIZING THE 2000 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL OLYMPICS LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN TO BE RUN THROUGH THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 280, and that the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 280) authorizing the 2000 District Of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run to be run through the Capitol Grounds.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements appear in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 280) was agreed to.

NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 302, and the Senate then proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 302) calling on the people of the United States to observe a National Moment of Remembrance to honor the men and women of the United States who died in pursuit of freedom and peace.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I rise to offer my support for passage of H. Con. Res. 302, a resolution proclaiming a National Moment of Remembrance.

As we gather with family and friends in observance of Memorial Day, I urge all Americans to take time to reflect upon the day's true meaning. Whether we attend a public observance, mark a grave, or simply bow our heads in quiet reflection, all Americans should remember to honor those who by serving,